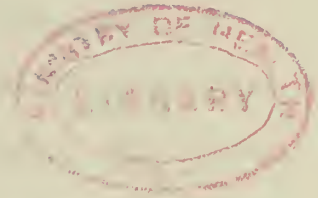


Confidential.

1940.



SWANSEA PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT.

for the year 1940

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

by

H. R. TIGHE, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

Port Medical Officer of Health.

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Port Health Offices,
10 Somerset Place,
SWANSEA.

THE SWANSEA PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

The membership of the Authority for the year was as follows:-

Councillor E. Walters. (Chairman)	}	County Borough of Swansea.
Alderman G.H. Hollett.		
Councillor W. Evans.		
Councillor T.S. Harris.		
Councillor Dr. L.W. Hefferman.		
Councillor S.C. Jenkins.		
Councillor G.H. Libby.		
Councillor E.G. Protheroe, J.P., succeeded in November, 1940 by Councillor A. Abberfield.		
Councillor W.G. Rees.		
Councillor David Richards, J.P.		
Councillor W.P. Jenkins, J.P. (Vice-Chairman).		Neath R.D.C.
Alderman R. Jenkins, J.P.	}	Borough of Neath.
Councillor J. Shea.		
Alderman H. Griffiths.	}	Borough of Port Talbot.
Councillor J.J. Edwards.		
Councillor G. Glenton.		Porthcawl U.D.C.
Councillor Edward Thomas.		Cowbridge R.D.C.
Councillor Major C.T. Edmondes, succeeded in April, 1940 by Councillor R.I. Nicholl.		Penybont R.D.C.

OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Clerk: H.L. Lang-Coath.

Medical Officer: H.R. Tighe, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer: Idwal Iugh, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers:

PORT TALBOT. W.W. Hellyer, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

NEATH DISTRICT: Thomas Imrie, M.B., Ch.B.

PORTHCAWL: G.M.A. Thomas, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.

Treasurer. W. B. Emmett.

Chief Inspector.

* J.A. Davies, C.R.S.I.

Assistant Inspectors.

SWANSEA.

* H.W. Baxter, C.R.S.I.

T.H. Hearne, C.R.S.I.

* H.G. Williams, C.R.S.I.

* H. Bowen, A.R.S.I.

* D.O. Jenkins, A.R.S.I.
Master Mariner's Certificate,
Board of Trade.

PORT TALBOT: R.A. Best, C.R.S.I.
succeeded on August 5th,
1940 by
* R.W. Norman, C.R.S.I.

NEATH DISTRICT: M.T. Johns.

PORTHCAWL: L. Mabley.

Rat-Searcher: P.H. Jones.

Medical Officer's Clerk: - A. Davies.

Junior Clerk: - J.G. Davies, serving with H.M. Forces.

Temporary Junior Clerk: - Miss Glenys Batoup.

* Certificate of Meat and Foods.

JURISDICTION OF THE PORT.

The limits of the jurisdiction of the Port Health Authority as defined by the Order constituting the Authority are as follows:-

"All that part of the said Port of Swansea which lies on the landward side of a straight line drawn from the Mumbles Point to the South-eastern extremity of the said Port at Nash Point, together with the waters of the said Port of Swansea, within such limits, and all docks, basins, harbours, creeks, rivers, channels, roads, bays and streams within the aforesaid limits, and the place or places which may from time to time be appointed as the Customs Boarding Station or Stations for such part of the said Port, and the place or places for the time being appointed for the mooring or anchoring of ships for such part of the said Port under any Regulations for the prevention of the spread of diseases issued under the Authority of the Statutes in that behalf, and for the purposes of any Regulations as aforesaid shall also extend to any ship which in pursuance thereof, or of any directions given thereunder, shall be moored or anchored at the place appointed thereunder as aforesaid, or which shall be on its way thither."

CONTRIBUTING AUTHORITIES.

The contributing Riparian Authorities are the County Borough of Swansea, the Boroughs of Port Talbot and Neath, the Urban District of Porthcawl and the Rural Districts of Cowbridge, Neath and Penybont.

To:

The Chairman and Members of the
Swansea Port Health Authority,

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1940. As in the case of that for the previous year, the report appears in modified form owing to the war conditions.

During the year some further changes occurred in the Authority's staff. It is with regret I have to record two changes caused by death. Dr. G.M.A. Thomas, your Assistant Port Medical Officer for Porthcawl died on December 18th. I understand the Clerk will submit a communication from the Ministry with reference to the Porthcawl appointment. Your Port Talbot Inspector, Mr. R.A. Best, was accidentally killed on May 15th by falling from a defective ladder while boarding a ship in the performance of his duties. He was a most conscientious and efficient officer who had served the Authority well for twelve years.

Temporary Inspector Mr. J.G. Davies left for military service. To fill the vacancies on the Inspectorial staff Mr. D.O. Jenkins and Mr. R.W. Norman were appointed.

I have also to record the death during retirement of your former Medical Officer, Dr. A. Hanson.

During the year, a visit of inspection was made by the Ministry of Health Inspector, Dr. N.E. Goodman.

Repairs were effected to the King's Dock Offices and to the Port Talbot Dock offices. The offices at 10 Somerset Place were decorated internally.

During the year the Swansea County Borough appointed a Disinfecting Officer for the Cyanide fumigation of houses. Your authority resolved

that they would accept the County Borough as a contractor for the fumigation of vessels. Under this arrangement four vessels were fumigated for bug infestation. Also, a certain number of naval vessels were fumigated for bugs and rats. The Admiralty, however, have now decided to have fumigations carried out by their regular contractors, though, I understand, at a much greater cost. No dissatisfaction was expressed by the Admiralty with the work done by the Disinfesting Officer.

I am of opinion that the position with regard to the fumigation of vessels should be further studied as there appears to be room for much closer co-operation with the County Borough with regard to disinfestation. The need for improving co-operation and making the necessary adjustments exists on both sides. On the part of the Borough it needs some thought and organisation to fit in the fumigation of houses with that of vessels so as to carry out the latter work expeditiously, but this does not appear to be an insurmountable difficulty.

INSPECTION OF SHIPPING.

TABLE A.

Number Inspected.		Number reported to be defective.	Number of Vessels on which defects were remedied.	Number of Vessels reported as having, or having had, during the voyage infectious disease on board.
By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspector.			
TOTAL:- 78	3,664	534	493	4.

Nuisances and defects found on vessels inspected, numbered 1,103, of which 976 were remedied. In addition 455 verminous and dirty beds were destroyed. 358 written informal notices and 176 oral instructions were issued. To enforce compliance with these notices and to investigate cases of sickness, 1,571 re-visits were made by your Inspectors.

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS DEALT WITH.

Nature of Nuisance or Defects.						Swan-	Neath.	Port	North-	Total
						sea.	Talbot.	cawl.		
Forecastles, berths, cleaned, painted, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	136	4	30	-	170
Waterclosets, ditto.	...	...	...	...	...	43	3	16	-	62
Defective or dirty water tanks or casks.	...	...	...	...	...	3	-	2	-	5
Damp quarters caused by leaky decks over berth, unlined iron decks over berths and defective wood lining.	...	...	...	...	...	52	2	22	-	76
Insufficient ventilation of crews' spaces.	...	...	...	...	...	2	-	6	-	8
Defective ventilators in do.	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	7	-	14
Insufficient lighting; defective side ports, deck prisms, etc.,	...	...	...	...	...	69	6	77	-	152
Ships' gear kept in crews' spaces.	...	...	...	...	...	13	-	1	-	14
Defective bulkheads and floors in crews' spaces and W.C.'s.	...	...	...	...	...	5	-	1	-	6
Foul accumulations on deck and quays.	...	...	...	...	...	33	-	9	-	42
Defective or dirty food lockers.	...	...	...	...	...	5	-	8	-	13
Defective cable chain casing in forecastle or defective or dirty alleyways, companionways	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	-	-	1
No tables in forecastles; defective ditto.	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	1	-	1
Defective and dirty bunks in forecastles.	...	...	...	...	...	60	-	7	-	67
Defective and dirty vegetable lockers, pantries, food-bins, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	3	-	-	-	3
Insufficient heating; defective stoves, and stove pipes, radiators, etc.,	...	...	...	...	...	47	-	24	-	71
Defective forecastle and berth doors.	...	...	...	...	...	14	-	6	-	20
Ship's gear kept in W.C.'s, bathrooms etc.,	...	...	...	...	...	8	-	2	-	10
Vermicious forecastles and berths.	...	...	...	...	...	111	-	57	-	168
Leaking hawse pipe in forecastles.	...	...	...	...	...	8	-	5	-	13
Defective seats in forecastles, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	1	-	1
Defective ladders in forecastles, etc.,	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	1	-	1
Dirty messrooms, bathrooms, lavatories and wash-houses.	...	...	...	...	...	12	-	4	-	16
Defective drainage, seats, doors, ventilation, pans, troughs, flushing, light, soil pipes, etc., in W.C.'s.	...	...	...	...	...	103	2	59	-	164
Steam pipe leaking into alleyways.	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	3	-	4
Defective Wash-hand Basins and Waste pipes.	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:-						736	18	349	8	1,103

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

TABLE C.

Cases of Infectious Sickness landed from Vessels.

Disease.	No. of Cases during the year.		No. of Vessels concerned.
	Passengers.	Crew.	
Diphtheria.	1	8	9
Malaria	-	2	2
Measles.	1	3	4
Pneumonia.	-	1	1
Typhoid Fever.	-	1	1
TOTALS.	2	15	17

TABLE D.

Cases of Infectious Sickness occurring on Vessels during the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival.

Disease.	No. of Cases during the year.		No. of Vessels concerned.
	Passengers.	Crew.	
Malaria.	-	1	1
Measles.	-	1	1
Typhoid Fever.	-	1	1
Scarlet Fever.	-	1	1
TOTALS.	-	4	4

The Infectious Diseases Hospitals of the Swansea Corporation, namely Hill House Isolation Hospital and the neighbouring Smallpox Hospital are available for Port Cases. There is a Resident Medical Officer at the Isolation Hospital. The Corporation Ambulances remove patients to Hospital from all the Ports within the area of the Port Authority.

Scabies cases are admitted to the Swansea Public Assistance Hospital, Tawe Lodge.

Venereal Diseases.

Cases from the Port of Swansea are referred to the Venereal Disease Clinic at the Swansea General Hospital.

A Venereal Disease Clinic at Port Talbot under the Glamorgan County Council serves the Ports of Neath and Port Talbot.

The Masters of all vessels on arrival are notified of the facilities for free treatment at the above clinics and leaflets giving information on the dangers of these diseases and the facilities for free treatment available are supplied to the crews by the Inspectors.

RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE E.

(1) On Vessels.

Total number of rats destroyed in year	- 807.
" " " " Bacteriologically examined	- 81.
" " " " Infected with Plague.	- Nil.

TABLE F.

(2) In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses.

Total number of rats destroyed in year	- 1,544
" " " " Bacteriologically examined	- 102
" " " " Infected with Plague.	- Nil.

TABLE H.

Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued During the Year.

No. of Ships.	No. of Deratisation Certificates issued.			No. of Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued.	Total Certif- icates issued.
	After fumigation with:-		After Trapping Total. Poisoning etc.		
	H.C.N.	Sulphur.	H.C.N. & Sulphur.		
286	13	9	Nil	- 22	264
					286

FOOD INSPECTION.

(1) Action taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937; the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927.

The arrangements of the preceding year continue.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD IMPORTS.

The Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937.

Amount of unsound food-stuffs dealt with:-

Description.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	How disposed of.
Fish.	0	6	2	0	Conveyed to Fish Meal Factory.
Fish. (unsound)	1	10	5	0	
Fish (unsold)	4	3	3	0	
Shell Fish.	0	9	2	0	
Potatoes.	7	2	0	0	Sold as Pig Food.
Wheat.	40	5	0	0	Reconditioned for animal food.
Seaweed (edible)	0	5	0	0	Destroyed.
Hams.	0	0	1	0	do.
Beef.	0	7	0	16	Conveyed to Manure factory.
Mutton.	16	9	2	4	do.
Pork.	0	1	3	4	do.
Pickled Herrings.	13	16	0	0	Disposed of as Manure.
Pork and Hams.	10	7	3	0	Sent by rail to Manure Works.
Beef and Poultry	30	3	3	18	do.
Yeast.	0	12	2	0	Destroyed.
TOTAL.	126	6	3	14	
Pickles	3 X	1 gallon jars.			Destroyed.

AMOUNT OF UNSOUND FOOD-STUFFS DEALT WITH. (Contd).

SHIP STORES DESTROYED AT REQUEST OF OWNERS.

<u>Description.</u>		<u>How disposed of.</u>
Flour.	8 bags.	Destroyed in Corporation Refuse Destructor.
Potatoes	1 ton.	
Currants.	5 boxes.	
Margarine.	2 tons.	
Canned vegetables.	68 tins	
Rice	1 bag	
Peas	1 bag	
Salt mutton	2 barrels	
Salt.	Half a cwt.	

UN SOUND SALVAGED FOOD-STUFFS.

Confectionery.	309 cases	Destroyed.
Biscuits.	60 cases	
Cocoa	1 case	
Xmas Pudding	1 case	
Mustard	25 cases	
Currie	2 cases	
Toffee	7 cases	
do.	5 cartons	
do.	2 packets	
do.	100 loose tins	
Soda carbonate	3 drums	
Drugs.	1 case	

UN SOUND SHIP STORES.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	
Beef.	0	0	3	18	Conveyed to manure factory.
Mutton.	0	0	3	21	
Veal	0	0	1	0	
Kidneys	0	0	1	0	
Ox tails.	0	0	0	4	
Corned Beef.	0	0	0	10	
Ox hearts	0	0	2	20	
Ox tongues	0	0	0	14	
Bologna	0	0	0	25	
Ox liver	0	0	1	14	
Pork	0	0	0	6	
Sausage	0	0	1	15	
Chicken	0	0	0	3	
Tripe	0	0	0	10	
Suet.	0	0	0	10	
TOTAL:-	0	4	2	2	

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1926.

No milk, to which the above regulations apply, was imported.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, Etc. IN FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1925 to 1927.

It was not found necessary to take action under the above regulations.

(2) Shell-fish.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS, 1934.

OYSTER FISHERY.- No Oyster landings were made within the area of the Authority during the year and no Oyster dredgers were licensed by the South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee. It is an offence to dredge for Oysters without a licence and any offender will be prosecuted by the Fisheries Committee.

The provision of a closed area under bye-law 11 of the South Wales Sea Fisheries was made as an experiment and the Fisheries Committee are satisfied that it has served its purpose so they do not propose to apply for a renewal of the closure at present.

Cockles are to be obtained in Swansea Bay but the beds are not worked as an industry. The Fisheries Committee sow cockles in the Bay to encourage fish to come in to feed and the results have proved very successful.

THE PARROTS (PROHIBITION OF IMPORT) REGULATIONS, 1930.

In all cases notices were served prohibiting importation, and forbidding removal except for exportation. A written undertaking not to import the parrots was given in each case.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
H. R. TIGHE,
Port Medical Officer of Health.

Port Health Offices,
10 Somerset Place,
SWANSEA.
April, 1941.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
H. R. TIGHE,
Port Medical Officer of Health.

Port Health Offices,
10 Somerset Place,
SWANSEA.

In conclusion, I thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Authority for your advice and support, the Officers of H.M. Customs, the Officers of H.M. Board of Trade, the Docks Officials, the Pilots and the Officers of the South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee for their co-operation and assistance and I thank my colleagues of all grades on the Staff of the Authority for their help in carrying out the duties of the Port Health Authority.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. R. TIGHE,

Port Medical Officer of Health.

Port Health Offices,
10 Somerset Place,
SWANSEA.

April, 1941.

